

What is Claimed:

1 1. A dispenser for delivering a suppository within a body cavity,
2 the dispenser comprising:

3 a barrel including a head, a foot, and a body having a length and
4 extending between the head and the foot, the barrel further (a) defining an axial
5 passage disposed along substantially the entire length of the body beginning at the
6 foot and ending proximate the head, and (b) including a side aperture joining the
7 head of and providing external access through the body of the barrel to the axial
8 passage; and

9 a plunger including a nose, a tail, and a frame extending between the
10 nose and the tail and having a length sized to travel within the axial passage of the
11 barrel between a relaxed position and a compressed position, in which a suppository
12 is ejected from the side aperture, upon actuation.

1 2. The dispenser according to claim 1, wherein the barrel further
2 includes one or more gripping fingers disposed in the head to secure a suppository
3 within the side aperture.

1 3. The dispenser according to claim 1, wherein the plunger further
2 includes a resilient folding protrusion joining the nose, the folding protrusion pushing
3 the suppository through the side aperture upon actuation of the plunger.

1 4. The dispenser according to claim 3, wherein the folding
2 protrusion of the plunger has at least one hinge facilitating bending of the folding
3 protrusion.

1 5. The dispenser according to claim 3, wherein the folding
2 protrusion of the plunger has a tip and the head of the barrel has a shoulder, the tip
3 abutting the shoulder and preventing movement of the folding protrusion in a first
4 direction, thereby causing the folding protrusion to bend.

1 6. The plunger according to claim 1, wherein the barrel further
2 includes a depth indicator on its external surface.

1 7. The dispenser according to claim 1, wherein the barrel further
2 includes a plurality of holes in its body and the plunger further includes a
3 corresponding number of resilient locator tabs on the frame, the locator tabs
4 engaging the holes to provide a physical indication of the position of the plunger
5 relative to the barrel.

1 8. The dispenser according to claim 1, wherein the barrel further
2 includes one or more ribs disposed along the exterior surface of the barrel to provide
3 texture facilitating a secure gripping of the barrel.

1 9. The dispenser according to claim 1, wherein the barrel further
2 includes a guide disposed on the inner surface of its body and the plunger further
3 includes a corresponding track, the track receiving the guide when the plunger is
4 inserted in the axial passage of the barrel.

1 10. The dispenser according to claim 1, wherein the head of the
2 barrel presents a solid, smooth, continuous, rounded surface.

1 11. The dispenser according to claim 1, wherein the plunger further
2 includes side rails disposed along the length of the frame, the side rails contacting
3 the inside walls of the body of the barrel as the plunger traverses the axial passage
4 of the barrel, as necessary, to maintain the plunger running along the axis of the
5 barrel.

1 12. A dispenser for delivering a suppository within a body cavity,
2 the dispenser comprising:

3 a barrel including a foot, a head having a shoulder and presenting a
4 solid, smooth, continuous, rounded surface, and a body having a length and
5 extending between the head and the foot, the barrel further (a) defining an axial
6 passage disposed along substantially the entire length of the body beginning at the

7 foot and ending proximate the head, and (b) including a side aperture joining the
8 head of and providing external access through the body of the barrel to the axial
9 passage; and

10 a plunger including:

11 (a) a nose having a resilient folding protrusion pushing the suppository
12 through the side aperture upon actuation of the plunger, the folding protrusion
13 having at least one hinge facilitating bending of the folding protrusion and a tip
14 abutting the shoulder of the head of the barrel and preventing movement of the
15 folding protrusion in a first direction, thereby causing the folding protrusion to bend,

16 (b) a tail adapted to receive force applied by a user to the plunger, and

17 (c) a frame extending between the nose and the tail and having a
18 length sized to travel within the axial passage of the barrel between a relaxed
19 position and a compressed position, in which a suppository is ejected from the side
20 aperture, upon actuation.

1 13. The dispenser according to claim 12, wherein the barrel further
2 includes one or more gripping fingers disposed in the head to secure a suppository
3 within the side aperture.

1 14. The plunger according to claim 12, wherein the barrel further
2 includes a depth indicator on its external surface.

1 15. The dispenser according to claim 12, wherein the barrel further
2 includes a plurality of holes in its body and the plunger further includes a
3 corresponding number of resilient locator tabs on the frame, the locator tabs
4 engaging the holes to provide a physical indication of the position of the plunger
5 relative to the barrel.

1 16. The dispenser according to claim 12, wherein the barrel further
2 includes one or more ribs disposed along the exterior surface of the barrel to provide
3 texture facilitating a secure gripping of the barrel.

1 17. The dispenser according to claim 12, wherein the barrel further
2 includes a guide disposed on the inner surface of its body and the plunger further
3 includes a corresponding track, the track receiving the guide when the plunger is
4 inserted in the axial passage of the barrel.

1 18. The dispenser according to claim 12, wherein the plunger
2 further includes side rails disposed along the length of the frame, the side rails
3 contacting the inside walls of the body of the barrel as the plunger traverses the axial
4 passage of the barrel, as necessary, to maintain the plunger running along the axis
5 of the barrel.

1 19. A dispenser for delivering a suppository within a body cavity,
2 the dispenser comprising:

3 a barrel including:

4 (a) a foot,

5 (b) a head having a shoulder and one or more gripping fingers
6 securing a suppository within the side aperture and presenting a solid, smooth,
7 continuous, rounded surface, and

8 (c) a body having a length and a plurality of holes and extending
9 between the head and the foot, the barrel further (i) defining an axial passage
10 disposed along substantially the entire length of the body beginning at the foot and
11 ending proximate the head, and (ii) including a side aperture joining the head of and
12 providing external access through the body of the barrel to the axial passage; and

13 a plunger including:

14 (a) a nose having a resilient folding protrusion pushing the suppository
15 through the side aperture upon actuation of the plunger, the folding protrusion
16 having at least one hinge facilitating bending of the folding protrusion and a tip
17 abutting the shoulder of the head of the barrel and preventing movement of the
18 folding protrusion in a first direction, thereby causing the folding protrusion to bend,

19 (b) a tail, and

20 (c) a frame extending between the nose and the tail and having a
21 length sized to travel within the axial passage of the barrel between a relaxed
22 position and a compressed position, in which a suppository is ejected from the side
23 aperture, upon actuation, the frame further having a number of resilient locator tabs
24 engaging the plurality of holes in the body of the barrel to provide a physical
25 indication of the position of the plunger relative to the barrel.

1 20. The dispenser according to claim 19, wherein the barrel further
2 includes a guide disposed on the inner surface of its body and the plunger further
3 includes a corresponding track, the track receiving the guide when the plunger is
4 inserted in the axial passage of the barrel.